



St. Clare Parish

Feb. 25, 2024

*A Catholic Community guided by the Holy Spirit
to proclaim Christ's love in worship, service and life-long learning*

Church

8535 SW 19th Ave Portland, OR 97219 503.244.1037

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9am - 12:30pm & 2 - 4pm

office@saintclarechurch.org www.saintclarechurch.org

Follow us on Facebook at St. Clare Catholic Church

Pastor	Fr. Don Gutmann	x101
Deacon	Dcn. Bill McNamara	x108
Pastoral Associate	Kim Zea	x104
Business Manager	Shelley Worrell	x102
Administrative Assistant	Laurie Zupsic	x100

School

1807 SW Freeman St Portland, OR 97219 503.244.7600

info@stclarepdx.org www.stclarepdx.org

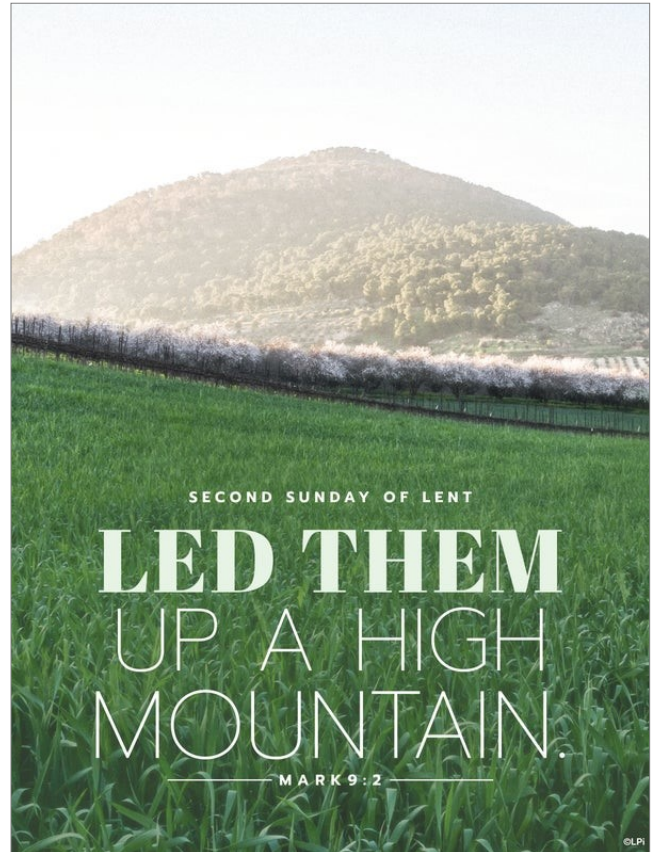
Principal	Chris Harris
Office Manager	Donna Parker MacNeur

Preschool

1812 SW Spring Garden St Portland, OR 97219 503.244.5458

nancy@stclarepreschool.org

Director	Nancy Melzer
Administrative Assistant	Jeanne Raffety



Sacraments - Please visit www.saintclarechurch.org for more information on sacramental preparation.

Weekend & Daily Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5pm

Sunday - 8:30am & 10:45am

Weekdays except Tuesdays - 8:30am

Holy Days - 8:30am, 12pm & 7pm

Visit www.saintclarechurch.org to view our livestream weekend Masses.

Reconciliation Saturdays from 4pm - 4:30pm in the church or by appointment. Contact Fr. Don Gutmann.

Matrimony Six month preparation required. Contact Deacon Bill McNamara.

Baptism for Infants Contact Deacon Bill McNamara.

Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation for Adults & Teens

Contact Kim Zea; **for Children** Contact sacramentprep@saintclarechurch.org

A Warm Welcome To All Who Worship with Us

Whether you are a current parishioner and need to update your information or newly arrived in the parish and not yet registered, please complete the form below and place in the offertory basket or mail to the parish office.

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

- New Parishioner
- Returning Catholic
- Moving (please remove from parish directory)
- New Phone Number
- New Address
- Please send Sunday Offertory envelopes



Weekly Inspiration **2nd Sunday of Lent**

Feb. 25, 2024

The Transfiguration left the disciples with more questions than answers. What had they just seen? What had they just heard? They were confused, but they trusted Jesus. Let's follow in their example, trusting in God's care as we journey deeper into Lent. ©LPi

Week-at-a-Glance

Saturday, Feb. 24

4:00pm Confessions until 4:30pm Church

5:00pm Mass +*Luigi Conti* & +*Anna Maria Conti* Church

Sunday, Feb. 25 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:30am Mass *The Fitzpatrick Family* Church

10:45am Mass *For the People* Church

Monday, Feb. 26

8:30am Daily Mass Church

Wednesday, Feb. 28

8:30am Daily Mass Church

9:00am Lenten Book Study Parish Office

Thursday, Feb. 29

8:30am Daily Mass Church

Friday, Mar. 1

8:30am Daily Mass +*Douglas Doane* Church

6:00pm Soup Supper Parish Hall

6:30pm Stations of the Cross Church

Saturday, Mar. 2

9:30am Sisters in the Spirit Gathering Church

2:00pm Eucharistic Adoration Church

4:00pm Confessions until 4:30pm Church

5:00pm Mass +*Paolo Conti* & +*Zia Digregorio* Church

Sunday, Mar. 3 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:30am Family Mass +*Anthony Cichoke* Church

10:45am Mass *For the People* Church

Fr. Don's Musings . . .

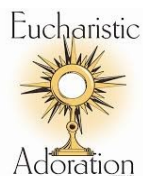
The theme of my homilies during this Lent is Prayer. Last week, I spoke about informal prayers, just talking to God in your own words. This week, I am talking about the formal prayers, those prayers that we memorize and pray with everyone else. Examples of formal prayers are the Our Father, Hail Mary, Grace before meals and the Rosary.

Formal prayers offer a routine and a familiarity that is comforting. They are prayers that have stood the test of time and thousands of people have benefited from them through the years, through the centuries. Formal prayers offer us the opportunity to pray them together with others. Some of them date all the way back to the time of Jesus (the Our Father and the first half of the Hail Mary).

The struggle that some people have with formal prayers is that they can become so routine that they can be said without engaging one's heart, we can "rattle" through the words but not really think about what we are saying. Because formal prayers are so familiar, we sometimes have to pay extra attention to make sure we stay focused on the meaning of the prayer.

For those looking for the text of some of the common formal prayers, you can find them on the back cover of the books in the pews or you can easily Google a prayer on your computer.

There are a lot of different ways to pray and formal prayers have always been a popular way and an effective way to pray. Next week, I'll talk about another good way to pray, praying with the Bible. However you choose to pray, keep praying! ~ Fr. Don



Saturday, Mar. 2, 2 -4pm
Come and spend a few minutes
with the Lord in prayer.
Benediction begins at 3:45pm.

Our Livestream Masses are Back!

The technical difficulties
have been resolved.
The streaming will begin again
with this weekend's Masses.

Scripture Readings ~ 3rd Sunday of Lent ~ Mar. 3, 2024

Reading 1 - Ex 20:1-17 Psalms - Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 Reading 2 - 1 Cor 1:22-25 Gospel - Jn 2:13-25

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org

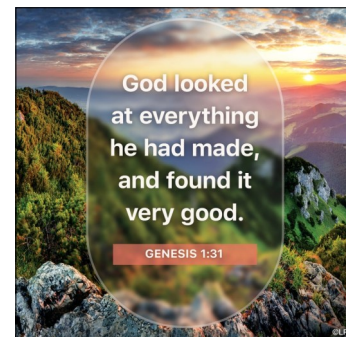
Signs of the Times by Deacon Bill . . . In the Beginning (Genesis)

Today, we begin to look at the individual books of the Bible in the part of the library called the Pentateuch which is compiled of the first five books in this order: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. These books contain the formation of the people of God. They focus on the story of Moses and the Sinai Covenant (Mosaic) where the people were given the Law. There are really no names of the authors here or throughout most of the Old Testament, because the message is much more important than who put it down on paper. The stories and historical traditions that make up these books come from four distinct sources: Yahwist, Elohist, Deuteronomist and Priestly. Remember that most of the writings in the Pentateuch were handed down by oral tradition.

The Exodus was the defining event of epic history that firmed up God working in the lives of the Jewish people and the major belief common to all the Israelites. However, it opened the door to ask what happened before the escape from Egypt and how the Israelites got to Egypt in the first place. The answers to those questions brought about Genesis, the first book of the Bible.

The first Hebrew word in Genesis is *Bereshit* which means, “in the beginning,” the opening words of the Bible. Genesis narrates the primeval history of the world (Chapters 1-11) and the patriarchal history of the Israelite people (Chapters 12-50). Let’s look at the beginning of Genesis and the creation stories. It is a concrete story handed down by word of mouth and tradition focusing on God’s actions in the Exodus episode, so it makes sense that God created everything. Since no one witnessed the events of creation, it was necessary to explain how it all happened.

Two theories evolved and both are presented in Genesis. The first comes from the priestly tradition that presents God as a Jewish carpenter. In the first three days, God builds the outside of the house: time (light and dark), space (sky), and land (earth and sea). During the next three days, again like a carpenter, God fills the dome with - lights (stars, sun, moon), living creatures in the water and sky (birds, swimming creatures), and living creatures on the land (cattle, wild animals, and yes, man). On the 7th day, He rested.



The next story of creation from the Yahwist tradition shows God creating man out of clay, giving a precise location of the Garden of Eden, letting man name all the animals, and finally creating woman from a rib of the man. Notice in both creation stories, Adam is not mentioned. They only refer to God creating man. What about that?

The original Hebrew name, *Adam* or *Adham*, means man or humankind. The Israelites would have understood this, so it brings up the fact that one has to know about the culture and the language of the Old Testament to really comprehend it without relying on footnotes or later translations in the Bible. For all of us who do not know Hebrew, we need to wait until Chapter 5 of Genesis to find Adam’s name. Eve’s name doesn’t appear until the end of the GN 3:20, “the man called his wife, Eve, because she became the mother of all living things.” We will learn much more about this couple next week when we hear about the fall of woman and man.

~ Deacon Bill

Lent 2024

Soup Suppers & Stations of the Cross



Friday Evenings in Lent

Feb. 23, Mar. 1, 8, 15 & 22

Soup Suppers 6pm Parish Hall

Stations of the Cross 6:30pm Church



Please join us each Friday evening during Lent for a light soup supper and Stations of the Cross. Our parish ministry groups will take turns hosting our meal and leading the stations.

Confessions and Parish Penance Service

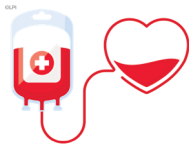
One of the themes of Lent is purifying ourselves from sin. Fr. Don highly encourages us to take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. Please note the opportunities for confession below:

- after all our weekend Masses
- at our regular time of 4-4:30pm on Saturdays
- during the communal Lenten Penance Service on Friday evening, Mar. 22 at 7pm

Outreach

Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, Mar. 14 Parish Hall 2:15-7pm



Please register at www.redcrossblood.org
(Sponsor Code is St.ClarePortland)

If you need assistance with registering, call 800.RED.CROSS or contact Maria DaSilva, St. Clare Blood Drive Coordinator, at 503.260.3633 or mariad8984@gmail.com.



The St. Clare Conference Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Pantry Needs as Lent Begins

- Tuna Helper
- Canned Fruit especially Pears
- Hygiene Items especially Deodorant

Donations may be placed in the food baskets at the church or on the front porch of the parish office.

Please check dates to ensure foods have not expired.

Community Life

St. Clare Women's Ministry

Sisters in the Spirit

Next Gathering: Saturday, Mar. 2
9:30-11am Downstairs at the Parish Office



All women of the parish are invited to join us for connection, spiritual joy and refreshments!

Questions? Contact Joanie at joanieq143@gmail.com.

For more information about the Sisters in the Spirit, visit sis-ministry.mailchimpsites.com/

Easter Egg Hunt Planning is Underway and your Help is Requested!

Donations Needed: Bags of individually wrapped candy or healthy alternatives; small toys to fit in eggs; small prizes; monetary contributions for egg hunt supplies. (Checks may be made payable to St. Clare Church and brought to the parish office.)

Volunteers Needed: Egg stuffers and day of helpers. Contact Heather Castrillon at heabrady@gmail.com if you can lend a hand.

Plan to Attend: Easter morning, Mar. 31 after the 8:30am Mass on the school playground. Toddlers—12 year olds and their parents are invited!



Many thanks to all who contributed!

Offertory Report

	Actual Offertory	Average Offertory Goal	Amount Over (Under) Goal
W/E 2.18.24	\$13,286	\$10,779	\$2,507
Total Feb. (1-18)	\$33,668	\$32,337	\$1,331
Fiscal Year 23/24	\$398,858	\$366,486	\$32,372

***FY 23/24 Offertory Goal: \$10,779 per week to fund the current programs, personnel and facilities of the church.**

Reminder: Interested in Online Giving? Please visit www.saintclarechurch.org. Thank you!



St. Andre Bessette Ministry to the Downtown Poor and Homeless 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

From John Kowalczyk, Ministry Leader

In 2023, we continued the post-Covid routine of cooking and assembling brown bag take-out dinners on the third Friday night of the month. Prior to Covid, we served guests sit-down dinners in the dining room of St. Andre Bessette Church which is located on West Burnside opposite the tall U.S. Bank tower. Now, guests line up on the sidewalk outside the church and are handed their meal at the door. It is not certain when sit-down dinners will be reinstated, but we hope soon as interaction with the guests is inspiring as some guests are very humble, some are very smart and some are very Holy. However, the pastor does screen out potential problem guests.

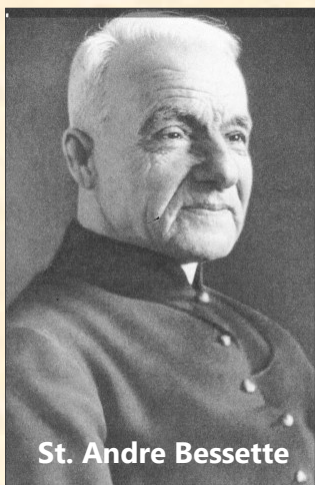


For the first time in years, we prepared and served brown bag dinners in every month of the year. Previously, St. Andre was normally closed during the summer. We continue to try to provide well-balanced meals with a hot entree, vegetable, fruit, roll and desert within our budget from the church. We served a total of 755 hot dinners. On the day before Thanksgiving, we participated with the other three churches that provide brown bag dinner on other Fridays of the month. Each church was assigned to bring a specific item and St. Clare's was stuffing. We were told to prepare for 150 guests. In actuality, 232 guests showed up and we were fortunate to stretch out the stuffing to about 180 guests. Some other specific items ran out below 150, but all guests got at least turkey and mashed potatoes.

We periodically get donations of clothing from parishioners and food and hygiene items from our St. Vincent De Paul ministry. Items marked for St. Andre can be left on the enclosed porch of the St. Clare parish office.

We currently have 5 individual and 5 family volunteers, totaling 16 volunteers. We normally need about 8 volunteers on any given service day. We welcome anyone who would like to experience this ministry even just once. Contact John Kowalczyk at johnkoyal@aol.com.

WHO WAS ANDRE BESSETTE?



St. Andre Bessette

He was born in 1845 in Montreal Canada. Sickness and weakness affected him from birth through life. He was adopted at age 12 after both parents died. He worked in various trades until age 25 when he applied for entrance to the Congregation of Holy Cross. He was given the humble job of doorkeeper at the Notre Dame College in Montreal with additional duties of Sacristan, laundry worker and messenger. He prayed much of the night on his knees. He was devoted to St. Joseph. When he heard someone was ill, he visited to cheer them up and pray with them. Word of his healing powers spread. He said he does not heal but said St. Joseph cures. Near the end of his life, he needed four secretaries to handle the 80,000 letters he received each year. He died in 1937 and nearly a million people came to his funeral. He was canonized as a Saint in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI as the first Holy Cross Saint. Noteworthy is that Holy Cross priests have served at the Downtown Chapel on Burnside for decades and when one of their order was the first to be canonized a saint, they changed the name of the chapel to St. Andre Bessette Church. Currently, Fr. Tom Gaughan has been pastor for about 6 years. Most of his service time has been spent at the University of Notre Dame managing the dorms. He has adapted to his radically new assignment of dealing with the poor and homeless in downtown Portland and developed a great knowledge and affection for these people which he shares with our volunteers after most every meal service.



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